

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. **Cancelled.**
2. **Cancelled.**
3. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treatment to reduce the extent of ~~normotrophic~~ cutaneous scarring on the skin which comprises applying across a wound on the surface of the skin during wound repair a single application of a pharmaceutical composition or biomaterial comprised of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of a 50-80% benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid, and an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid, optionally in association with at least one additional pharmacologically or biologically active compound.
4. **(Previously Presented)** An efficacious method for reducing the extent of wounds to the skin comprising applying to the wound an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition or biomaterial comprised of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of an ester with benzyl alcohol, and an autocrosslinked ester, optionally in combination with at least one additional pharmacological or biologically active compound.
5. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 4, wherein said wound reduction results in reduced normotrophic scarring.
6. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is a 65-80% benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid.
7. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the derivative of hyaluronic acid is an autocross-linked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with the alcoholic function of the same hyaluronic acid chain or other chains.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to any one of claims<sup>1</sup> 3, 4 and 7, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is autocross-linked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 5% of the carboxy groups are involved in autocross-linking.
9. **(Cancelled)**
10. **(Cancelled)**
11. **(Cancelled)**
12. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to ~~any one of claims 3-4 and 7-8~~claim 7, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is in the form of a gel, sponge, non-woven fabric, thread, perforated or non-perforated membrane, microsphere, nanosphere, gauze pad or a combination thereof.
13. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to ~~any one of claims 3-8~~claim 7, wherein the pharmacologically or biologically active substance is an antibiotic, growth factor, antimicotic, antimicrobial, antiviral agent, disinfectant, phospholipid or anaesthetic.
14. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treating cutaneous scarring of the skin which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective cutaneous scar treatment amount of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid and an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid..
15. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with an alcohol group of the same or different hyaluronic acid claims.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 5% of the carboxy groups are involved in crosslinking.
17. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 14, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 75% of the carboxy functions are esterified with benzyl alcohol.
18. **(Currently Amended)** A method for the treatment of ~~normotrophic~~cutaneous scarring on the skin which comprises applying to the treatment area an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one hyaluronic acid derivative, selected from the group consisting of a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid and an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein said pharmaceutical composition is in the form of a gel, a guide channel, a sponge, a thread, a perforated or non-perforated membrane, a microsphere, a nanosphere and a gauze.
19. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18, wherein said extent of normotrophic scarring is reduced by 40% compared to areas treated with hyaluronic acid.
20. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with an alcohol group of the same or different hyaluronic acid claims
21. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 20, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an auto-crosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 5% of the carboxy groups are involved in crosslinking.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 75% of the carboxy functions are esterified with benzyl alcohol.